#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (5) or a salt thereof:

[F3]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound of formula (3) or a salt thereof:

[F1]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (3)

with a metal cyanide, to thereby obtain a compound of formula (4) or a salt thereof:

[F2]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (4)

and hydrolyzing the obtained compound or a salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (4) or a salt thereof:

[F5]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (4)

wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound of formula (3) or a salt thereof:

[F4]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (3)

with a metal cyanide.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (5) or a salt thereof:

[F7]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

wherein the process is characterized by comprising hydrolyzing a compound of formula (4) or a salt thereof.

[F6]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (4)

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the metal cyanide is a mixture of sodium cyanide and copper cyanide.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the hydrolysis is performed through treatment with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 5, wherein the alkali metal hydroxide is lithium hydroxide.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (5) or a salt thereof:

[F10]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound of formula (2) or a salt thereof:

[F8]

with an alkali metal nitrite in the presence of a reducing agent in an aqueous solution of an acidic compound, to thereby obtain a compound of formula (6) or a salt thereof:

[F9]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (6)

and reacting the obtained compound or a salt thereof with trihalogenoacetyl halide in the presence of a base, followed by hydrolysis.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (6) or a salt thereof:

[F12]

$$-N$$
 $N$ 
 $(6)$ 

wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound of formula (2) or a salt thereof:

### [F11]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (2)

with an alkali metal nitrite in the presence of a reducing agent in an aqueous solution of an acidic compound.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (5) or a salt thereof:

### [F14]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound of formula (6) or a salt thereof:

### [F13]

$$-N$$
 $N$ 
 $(6)$ 

with trihalogenoacetyl halide in the presence of a base, followed by hydrolysis.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the reducing agent is hypophosphorous acid.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the alkali metal nitrite is sodium nitrite.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 7 or 9, wherein the base is a tertiary amine.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 7 or 9, wherein trihalogenoacetyl halide is trichloroacetyl chloride.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 7 or 9, wherein the hydrolysis is performed through treatment with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The process according to claim 14, wherein the alkali metal hydroxide is lithium hydroxide.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): A process for producing a compound of formula (5) or a salt thereof comprising:

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound of formula (1) or a salt thereof[[:]]

$$-N$$
  $\bigcirc$  0 (1)

with sulfur powder and cyanamide in the presence of a secondary amine, to thereby obtain a compound of formula (2) or a salt thereof[[:]];

$$-N \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow N$$
 (2)

[[and]] reacting the obtained compound (2) or a salt thereof, hydrobromic acid and alkali metal nitrite, to thereby obtain a compound of formula (3) or a salt thereof[[:]];

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (3)

and reacting the obtained compound (3) or a salt thereof with <u>an</u> alkyllithium and carbon dioxide to obtain the compound of formula (5).

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (2) or a salt thereof:

[F20]

wherein the process is characterized by comprising

reacting a compound of formula (1) or a salt thereof:

[F19]

$$-$$
N $\longrightarrow$ O (1)

with sulfur powder and cyanamide in the presence of a secondary amine.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (3) or a salt thereof:

[F22]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 Br (3)

wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound of formula (2) or a salt thereof:

[F21]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (2)

with hydrobromic acid and an alkali metal nitrite.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): The process according to claim 16, wherein the alkyllithium is n-butyl lithium.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The process according to claim 16 or 17, wherein the secondary amine is pyrrolidine.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The process according to claim 16 or 17, wherein the alkali metal nitrite is sodium nitrite.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): A salt formed between an acidic compound and a compound of formula (4).

# [F23]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (4)

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): A salt formed between an acidic compound and a compound of formula (5).

### [F24]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): A salt formed between an acidic compound and a compound of formula (6).

# [F25]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (6)

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): A salt formed between an acidic compound and a compound of formula (2).

# [F26]

$$-N \nearrow N$$
 (2)

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Claim 26 (Withdrawn): A salt formed between an acidic compound and a compound of formula (3).

[F27]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (3)

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The salt according to claim 22 or 23, wherein the acidic compound is hydrochloric acid.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): The salt according to claim 24 or 26, wherein the acidic compound is p-toluenesulfonic acid.

Claim 29 (Withdrawn): The salt according to claim 25, wherein the acidic compound is hydrobromic acid.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (8) or a salt thereof:

[F30]

(wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl or alkoxy;

Q<sup>1</sup> represents C1-C8 alkylene, C2-C8 alkenylene, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-A-CH<sub>2</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- (wherein each of m and n represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 3 and A represents an oxygen atom, a

nitrogen atom, a sulfur atom, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -O-NH-, -NH-NH-, -S-NH-, -SO-NH-, or  $SO_2$ -NH-);

each of R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup>, which is a substituent linked to a carbon atom, a nitrogen atom, or a sulfur atom forming the Q<sup>1</sup>-containing ring, represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, a halogen atom, halogenoalkyl, cyano, cyanoalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, Nalkylaminoalkyl, N,N-dialkylaminoalkyl, acyl, acylalkyl, acylamino which may have a subsituent, alkoxyimino, hydroxyimino, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkylamino, carboxyalkylamino, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkoxycarbonylaminoalkyl, carbamoyl, Nalkylcarbamoyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N-alkenylcarbamoyl, N-alkenylcarbamoylalkyl, Nalkenyl-N-alkylcarbamoyl, N-alkenyl-N-alkylcarbamoylalkyl, N-alkoxycarbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-alkoxycarbamoyl, N-alkoxycarbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-N-alkoxycarbamoylalkyl, carbazoyl which may be substituted by 1 to 3 alkyl groups, alkylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonylalkyl, 3- to 6membered heterocyclic carbonyl which may have a substituent, carbamoylalkyl, Nalkylcarbamoylalkyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylalkyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, carbamoyloxyalkyl, N-alkylcarbamoyloxyalkyl, N,N-dialkylcarbamoyloxyalkyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbonylalkyl which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbonyloxyalkyl which may have a substituent, aryl, aralkyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic group which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic alkyl which may have a substituent, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, alkylsulfonylaminoalkyl, arylsulfonylaminoalkyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, arylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonylalkyl, arylsulfonylaminocarbonylalkyl, oxo, carbamoyloxy, aralkyloxy, carboxyalkyloxy, alkoxycarbonylalkyloxy, acyloxy, acyloxyalkyl, arylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonylalkylsulfonyl,

carboxyalkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonylacyl, alkoxyalkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyacyl, alkoxyacyl, halogenoacyl, carboxyacyl, aminoacyl, acyloxyacyl, acyloxyalkylsulfonyl, hydroxyalkylsulfonyl, alkoxyalkylsulfonyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic sulfonyl which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic oxy which may have a substituent, N-alkylaminoacyl, N,N-dialkylaminoacyl, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylacyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylalkylsulfonyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, alkylsulfonylacyl, N-arylcarbamoyl, N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-arylcarbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoyl, N-arylcarbamoylalkyl, N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-N-arylcarbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoylalkyl, aminocarbothioyl, N-alkylaminocarbothioyl, N,N-dialkylaminocarbothioyl, alkoxyalkyl(thiocarbonyl), alkylthioalkyl, or N-acyl-N-alkylaminoalkyl; when R³ and R⁴ are linked together to form a group, the group represents C1-C5 alkylene, C2-C5 alkenylene, C1-C5 alkylenedioxy, or carbonyldioxy;

Q² represents aryl which may have a substituent, arylalkenyl which may have a substituent, arylalkynyl which may have a substituent, heteroaryl which may have a substituent, heteroarylalkenyl which may have a substituent, a saturated or unsaturated bicyclic or tricyclic condensed hydrocarbon group which may have a substituent, or a saturated or unsaturated bicyclic or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic group which may have a substituent; T¹ represents carbonyl, sulfonyl, -C(=O)-C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=O)-C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=O)-N(R')-,

C(=NOR<sup>a</sup>)-N(R<sup>b</sup>)-, -C(=S)-C(=NOR<sup>a</sup>)-N(R<sup>b</sup>)- (wherein R<sup>a</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, or alkanoyl and R<sup>b</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-N=N-, -C(=S)-N=N-, -C(=NOR<sup>C</sup>)-C(=O)-N(R<sup>d</sup>)- (wherein R<sup>C</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, alkanoyl, aryl, or aralkyl and R<sup>d</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=N-N(R<sup>e</sup>)(R<sup>f</sup>))-C(=O)-N(R<sup>g</sup>)- (wherein, each of R<sup>e</sup> and R<sup>f</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, alkanoyl, or alkyl(thiocarbonyl) and R<sup>g</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=S)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-NH-C(=S)-, -C(=S)-NHC(=S)-, -C(=O)-NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-, -C(=NCN)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=S)-C(=O)-, or thiocarbonyl), wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound which is represented by formula (5) and which is produced through a process according to claim 1, 3, 7, 9, or 16 or a salt thereof:

[F28]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

with diamines of formula (7) or a salt thereof:

[F29]

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{1}R^{3} & Q^{1} & R^{4} & R^{2} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
HN & & N-T^{1}-Q^{2}
\end{array} (7)$$

(wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $T^1$ ,  $Q^1$ , and  $Q^2$  have the same meanings as described above).

Claim 31 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (8) or a salt thereof:

[F36]

(wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl or alkoxy;

Q<sup>1</sup> represents C1-C8 alkylene, C2-C8 alkenylene, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-A-CH<sub>2</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- (wherein each of m and n represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 3 and A represents an oxygen atom, a nitrogen atom, a sulfur atom, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -O-NH-, -NH-NH-, -S-NH-, -SO-NH-, or SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-);

each of R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup>, which is a substituent linked to a carbon atom, a nitrogen atom, or a sulfur atom forming the Q<sup>1</sup>-containing ring, represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, a halogen atom, halogenoalkyl, cyano, cyanoalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, Nalkylaminoalkyl, N,N-dialkylaminoalkyl, acyl, acylalkyl, acylamino which may have a subsituent, alkoxyimino, hydroxyimino, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkylamino, carboxyalkylamino, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkoxycarbonylaminoalkyl, carbamoyl, Nalkylcarbamoyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N-alkenylcarbamoyl, N-alkenylcarbamoylalkyl, Nalkenyl-N-alkylcarbamoyl, N-alkenyl-N-alkylcarbamoylalkyl, N-alkoxycarbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-alkoxycarbamoyl, N-alkoxycarbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-N-alkoxycarbamoylalkyl, carbazoyl which may be substituted by 1 to 3 alkyl groups, alkylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonylalkyl, 3- to 6membered heterocyclic carbonyl which may have a substituent, carbamoylalkyl, Nalkylcarbamoylalkyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylalkyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, carbamoyloxyalkyl, N-alkylcarbamoyloxyalkyl, N,N-dialkylcarbamoyloxyalkyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbonylalkyl which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbonyloxyalkyl which may have a

substituent, aryl, aralkyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic group which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic alkyl which may have a substituent, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, alkylsulfonylaminoalkyl, arylsulfonylaminoalkyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, arylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonylalkyl, arylsulfonylaminocarbonylalkyl, oxo, carbamoyloxy, aralkyloxy, carboxyalkyloxy, alkoxycarbonylalkyloxy, acyloxy, acyloxyalkyl, arylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonylalkylsulfonyl, carboxyalkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonylacyl, alkoxyalkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyacyl, alkoxyacyl, halogenoacyl, carboxyacyl, aminoacyl, acyloxyacyl, acyloxyalkylsulfonyl, hydroxyalkylsulfonyl, alkoxyalkylsulfonyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic sulfonyl which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic oxy which may have a substituent, Nalkylaminoacyl, N,N-dialkylaminoacyl, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylacyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylalkylsulfonyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, alkylsulfonylacyl, N-arylcarbamoyl, N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-arylcarbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoyl, N-arylcarbamoylalkyl, N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-Narylcarbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoylalkyl, aminocarbothioyl, N-alkylaminocarbothioyl, N,N-dialkylaminocarbothioyl, alkoxyalkyl(thiocarbonyl), alkylthioalkyl, or N-acyl-N-alkylaminoalkyl; when R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are linked together to form a group, the group represents C1-C5 alkylene, C2-C5 alkenylene, C1-C5 alkylenedioxy, or carbonyldioxy;

Q<sup>2</sup> represents aryl which may have a substituent, arylalkenyl which may have a substituent, arylalkynyl which may have a substituent, heteroaryl which may have a substituent, heteroarylalkenyl which may have a substituent, a saturated or unsaturated bicyclic or tricyclic condensed hydrocarbon group which may have a substituent, or a saturated or unsaturated bicyclic or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic group which may have a substituent;

 $T^1$  represents carbonyl, sulfonyl, -C(=O)-C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=S)-C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=O)-N(R')-C(=S)-N(R')-, -C(=S)-C(=S)-N(R')- (wherein R' represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-A<sup>1</sup>-N(R")- (wherein A<sup>1</sup> represents an C1-C5 alkylene which may have a substituent and R" represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-NH-, -C(=S)-NH-, -C(=O)-NH-NH-, -C(=O)-A<sup>2</sup>-C(=O)- (wherein A<sup>2</sup> represents a single bond or C1-C5 alkylene), -C(=O)-A<sup>3</sup>-C(=O)-NH- (wherein A<sup>3</sup> represents C1-C5 alkylene), -C(=O)-C(=NOR<sup>a</sup>)-N(R<sup>b</sup>)-, -C(=S)-C(=NOR<sup>a</sup>)-N(R<sup>b</sup>)- (wherein R<sup>a</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, or alkanovl and R<sup>b</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-N=N-, -C(=S)-N=N-, -C(=NOR<sup>C</sup>)-C(=O)-N(R<sup>d</sup>)- (wherein R<sup>C</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, alkanoyl, aryl, or aralkyl and R<sup>d</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), - $C(=N-N(R^e)(R^f))-C(=O)-N(R^g)$ - (wherein, each of  $R^e$  and  $R^f$  represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, alkanoyl, or alkyl(thiocarbonyl) and R<sup>g</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=S)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-NH-C(=S)-, -C(=S)-NHC(=S)-, - $C(=O)-NH-SO_2-$ ,  $-SO_2-NH-$ , -C(=NCN)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=S)-C(=O)-, or thiocarbonyl), wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound which is represented by formula (5) and which is produced through a process according to claim 1, 3, 7, 9, or 16 or a salt thereof:

[F31]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

with diamines of formula (9) or a salt thereof:

[F32]

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 & Q^1 & R^4 & R^2 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
HN & & N - R^k
\end{array} (9)$$

(wherein  $R^k$  is an amino-group-protective group and  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ , and  $Q^1$  have the same meanings as described above) to thereby obtain a compound of formula (10):

[F33]

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 & Q^1 & R^4 & R^2 \\
\hline
N & N & N & N & N
\end{array}$$
(10)

(wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, Q<sup>1</sup>, and R<sup>K</sup> have the same meanings as described above), and removing R<sup>k</sup> from the obtained compound or a salt thereof, to thereby produce a compound of formula (11) or a salt thereof:

[F34]

(wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and Q<sup>1</sup> have the same meanings as described above), and reacting the obtained compound or a salt thereof with a compound of formula (12) or a salt thereof:

[F35]

$$HO-T^{1}-Q^{2}$$
 (12)

(wherein  $T^1$  and  $Q^2$  have the same meanings as described above).

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a compound of formula (8'):

[F42]

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{1R^{3}} & Q^{1} & R^{4} \\
N & & N \\
N & & H
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{1R^{3}} & Q^{1} & R^{4} \\
N & & N \\
N & & H
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
(8')
\end{array}$$

(wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl or alkoxy;

Q<sup>1</sup> represents C1-C8 alkylene, C2-C8 alkenylene, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-A-CH<sub>2</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- (wherein each of m and n represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 3 and A represents an oxygen atom, a nitrogen atom, a sulfur atom, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -O-NH-, -NH-NH-, -S-NH-, -SO-NH-, or SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-);

each of R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup>, which is a substituent linked to a carbon atom, a nitrogen atom, or a sulfur atom forming the O<sup>1</sup>-containing ring, represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, a halogen atom, halogenoalkyl, cyano, cyanoalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, Nalkylaminoalkyl, N,N-dialkylaminoalkyl, acyl, acylalkyl, acylamino which may have a subsituent, alkoxyimino, hydroxyimino, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkylamino, carboxyalkylamino, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkoxycarbonylaminoalkyl, carbamoyl, Nalkylcarbamoyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N-alkenylcarbamoyl, N-alkenylcarbamoylalkyl, Nalkenyl-N-alkylcarbamoyl, N-alkenyl-N-alkylcarbamoylalkyl, N-alkoxycarbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-alkoxycarbamoyl, N-alkoxycarbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-N-alkoxycarbamoylalkyl, carbazoyl which may be substituted by 1 to 3 alkyl groups, alkylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonylalkyl, 3- to 6membered heterocyclic carbonyl which may have a substituent, carbamoylalkyl, Nalkylcarbamoylalkyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylalkyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, carbamoyloxyalkyl, N-alkylcarbamoyloxyalkyl, N,N-dialkylcarbamoyloxyalkyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbonylalkyl which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbonyloxyalkyl which may have a

3- to 6-membered heterocyclic alkyl which may have a substituent, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, alkylsulfonylaminoalkyl, arylsulfonylaminoalkyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, arylsulfonylaminocarbonyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonylalkyl, arylsulfonylaminocarbonylalkyl, oxo, carbamoyloxy, aralkyloxy, carboxyalkyloxy, alkoxycarbonylalkyloxy, acyloxy, acyloxyalkyl, arylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonylalkylsulfonyl, carboxyalkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonylacyl, alkoxyalkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyacyl, alkoxyacyl, halogenoacyl, carboxyacyl, aminoacyl, acyloxyacyl, acyloxyalkylsulfonyl, hydroxyalkylsulfonyl, alkoxyalkylsulfonyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic sulfonyl which may have a substituent, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic oxy which may have a substituent, Nalkylaminoacyl, N,N-dialkylaminoacyl, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylacyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, N,N-dialkylcarbamoylalkylsulfonyl whose alkyl may or may not be substituted, alkylsulfonylacyl, N-arylcarbamoyl, N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-arylcarbamoyl, N-alkyl-N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoyl, N-arylcarbamoylalkyl, N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-Narylcarbamoylalkyl, N-alkyl-N-3- to 6-membered heterocyclic carbamoylalkyl, aminocarbothioyl, N-alkylaminocarbothioyl, N,N-dialkylaminocarbothioyl, alkoxyalkyl(thiocarbonyl), alkylthioalkyl, or N-acyl-N-alkylaminoalkyl; when R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are linked together to form a group, the group represents C1-C5 alkylene, C2-C5 alkenylene, C1-C5 alkylenedioxy, or carbonyldioxy; O<sup>2</sup> represents aryl which may have a substituent, arylalkenyl which may have a substituent, arylalkynyl which may have a substituent, heteroaryl which may have a substituent,

substituent, aryl, aralkyl, 3- to 6-membered heterocyclic group which may have a substituent,

Q<sup>2</sup> represents aryl which may have a substituent, arylalkenyl which may have a substituent, arylalkynyl which may have a substituent, heteroaryl which may have a substituent, heteroarylalkenyl which may have a substituent, a saturated or unsaturated bicyclic or tricyclic condensed hydrocarbon group which may have a substituent, or a saturated or unsaturated bicyclic or tricyclic condensed heterocyclic group which may have a substituent;

 $T^1$  represents carbonyl, sulfonyl, -C(=O)-C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=S)-C(=O)-N(R')-, -C(=O)-N(R')-C(=S)-N(R')-, -C(=S)-C(=S)-N(R')- (wherein R' represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-A<sup>1</sup>-N(R")- (wherein A<sup>1</sup> represents an C1-C5 alkylene which may have a substituent and R" represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-NH-, -C(=S)-NH-, -C(=O)-NH-NH-, -C(=O)-A<sup>2</sup>-C(=O)- (wherein A<sup>2</sup> represents a single bond or C1-C5 alkylene), -C(=O)-A<sup>3</sup>-C(=O)-NH- (wherein A<sup>3</sup> represents C1-C5 alkylene), -C(=O)- $C(=NOR^a)-N(R^b)-$ ,  $-C(=S)-C(=NOR^a)-N(R^b)-$  (wherein  $R^a$  represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, or alkanovl and R<sup>b</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-N=N-, -C(=S)-N=N-, -C(=NOR<sup>C</sup>)-C(=O)-N(R<sup>d</sup>)- (wherein R<sup>C</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl, alkanoyl, aryl, or aralkyl and R<sup>d</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), - $C(=N-N(R^e)(R^f))-C(=O)-N(R^g)$ - (wherein, each of  $R^e$  and  $R^f$  represents a hydrogen atom. alkyl, alkanoyl, or alkyl(thiocarbonyl) and R<sup>g</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl, or alkoxy), -C(=O)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=S)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-NH-C(=S)-, -C(=S)-NHC(=S)-, - $C(=O)-NH-SO_2-$ ,  $-SO_2-NH-$ , -C(=NCN)-NH-C(=O)-, -C(=S)-C(=O)-, or thiocarbonyl), wherein the process is characterized by comprising reacting a compound which is represented by formula (5) and which is produced through a process according to claim 1, 3, 7, 9, or 16 or a salt thereof:

[F37]

$$-N \longrightarrow N$$
 (5)

with diamines of formula (13) or a salt thereof:

[F37]

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 & Q^1 & R^4 \\
\downarrow & & & \\
HN & & & \\
\end{array}$$
(13)

(wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and Q<sup>1</sup> have the same meanings as described above) to thereby obtain a compound of formula (14) or a salt thereof:

[F39]

(wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and Q<sup>1</sup> have the same meanings as described above), and reducing the obtained compound or a salt thereof, to thereby yield a compound of formula (11') or a salt thereof:

[F40]

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 & Q^1 & R^4 \\
\hline
N & & & & \\
N & & & & \\
N & & & & \\
\end{array}$$

(wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and Q<sup>1</sup> have the same meanings as described above), and reacting the obtained compound or a salt thereof with a compound of formula (12) or a salt thereof:

[F41]

$$HO-T^1-Q^2$$
 (12)

(wherein T<sup>1</sup> and Q<sup>2</sup> have the same meanings as described above).